

deal with this disaster or some other disaster for fear of having it go up just a little bit. [A participant requested cooperation from private lending institutions in the coming years to help farmers recover from their losses.]

The President. Well, let me make two points, if I might. First of all, you characterized what happened in the eighties rather well. We had a lot of droughts in the eighties, but we also had, as you well know, a huge amount of farm debt out there which had been taken out when there was inflation, rising prices, rising land prices, and high interest rates. And then when commodity prices collapsed in the eighties, a lot of farmers couldn't finance that debt. And it took about 5 years for the Federal Government to agree on a bipartisan basis on a farming refinancing system, which then the private lending institutions could plug into. I think that provided for forbearance, for example, and other things.

I think you've got a lot of that out there now. There are also some real options that every farming State in this country has to try to help the lending institutions deal with the farmers. We won't go through all the details, but we do.

The next thing I would like to say to you, however, is that we are working aggressively to try to change the regulatory environment in which small business and agriculture live and relate to the federally insured financial institutions, the private banks. And I think that over the next year you will see a significant increase in credit offered to businesses and to agriculture because of this changing regulatory environment.

Mr. Mickelson. Mr. President, we're out of time here. On behalf of KMOX Radio in St. Louis, WCCO Radio in Minneapolis, WHO Radio here in Des Moines, along with KLYF-FM and TV-13, thank you for coming and sharing your thoughts and visiting the heartland. I appreciate it.

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The interview began at 1:30 p.m. at WHO Studios.

Letter to the Speaker of the House on Flood Disaster Assistance

July 14, 1993

Sir:

I ask Congress to consider expeditiously the enclosed requests for emergency FY 1993 supplemental appropriations. These requests provide for emergency expenses arising from the consequences of the recent heavy rains and flooding along the Mississippi River, particularly in the Upper Midwest. I ask further that the legislation in which these funds are provided be kept free of extraneous matters in order that there may be a minimum of delay in providing necessary funds to the disaster areas.

I hereby designate the following requests as emergency requirements pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

- Department of Agriculture, Commodity Credit Corporation, Commodity Credit Corporation fund: \$600,000,000;
- Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Emergency conservation program: \$20,000,000;
- Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Watershed and flood prevention operations: \$25,000,000;
- Department of Defense—Civil, Corps of Engineers, Flood control and coastal emergencies: \$45,000,000;
- Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Planning and Development, Community development grants: \$3,000,000;
- Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal-aid highways: \$100,000,000;
- Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard, Operating expenses: \$5,000,000;
- Small Business Administration, Disaster loan program account: \$70,000,000; and
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, Disaster relief: \$550,000,000.

The details of these requests are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I

concur with the Director's comments and observations.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

Statement on the Death of Patrick Lippert

July 14, 1993

I am deeply saddened by the untimely death of one of America's brightest young leaders, Patrick Lippert. An activist for many years, most recently Patrick launched Rock the Vote, an organization that reinvigorated an entire generation's interest in our democratic process by rallying them to vote in the past election, many for the first time. Rock the Vote will continue to serve as a political forum for countless new generations of young Americans to come, thanks in large part to Patrick.

Many remarkable Americans have accomplished far less than Patrick did in his 35 years. As executive director of Rock the Vote, he helped to conceive of and then to pass the motor voter bill, which will make registering to vote much easier for millions of Americans. I was honored to have Patrick at my side 6 weeks ago as I signed the bill into law.

Patrick's friends knew him as a tireless and selfless fighter for the rights of people he never even knew. His concern for people and for his country was profound. He will be sorely missed by all of us who were inspired by his relentless fight for change. His passing should serve as a reminder that we must rededicate ourselves to the ideals he stood for.

Nominations for the Department of Defense

July 14, 1993

The President announced today that he intends to nominate R. Noel Longuemare to be the Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition and Gilbert F. Casellas to be General Counsel of the Air Force.

"Today we are naming two more people to our Pentagon team," said the President, "both of whom are respected professionals who have achieved high levels of achieve-

ment in the private sector. I am grateful to both of them for coming into public service."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nominations for the Department of Labor

July 14, 1993

The President announced his intention today to nominate Martin Manley to be the Assistant Secretary of Labor for the Office of the New American Workplace and John Calhoun Wells to be Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

"Martin Manley and John Calhoun Wells have both spent much of their lives trying to bring labor and management together in partnerships for growth," said the President. "That is exactly the kind of person that we need in these important positions. I am confident that they will bring that same spirit of cooperation to their work in my administration."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks Announcing the Community Development Banking and Finance Initiative

July 15, 1993

Thank you very much. I want to say to Joe and Beverly and Tim, they have stated more eloquently the case than I ever could for the work we are here to begin today. I thank them for their presence here and for their fine presentations.

I want to acknowledge, too, the presence in the audience of so many people who have been involved in community development financing for a long time. I thank all of you for coming from all over America. We have a remarkable group of people here from the United States Government from the execu-